

## **Minutes Neighborhood Advisory Commission Meeting January 9, 2008**

**Minutes of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission (NAC) held on January 9, 2008, 5:30 p.m. at Apache Boulevard Police Substation Community Room, 1855 East Apache Boulevard, Tempe, Arizona.**

**(MEMBERS) Present:** Erik Anthony Aldrete, Don Calender, Greg Ellison, Faye Farmer, Andy Hall, Kevin Kaesberg, Ira King, Susan Knudson, Alex Podressoff, Joe Pospicil, Jason Short, Michael Wasko, Woody Wilson.

**(MEMBERS) Excused Absences:** Tom Catlaw, Pete De Mott, John Sanborn, William Wagner, Bill Weigele.

**City Staff Present:** Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Director, Elizabeth Thomas, Neighborhood Services Specialist, Jyme Sue McLaren, Deputy Public Works Manager, Light Rail Transportation, jymesue\_mclaren@tempe.gov, 480-350-8803.

### **Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order**

Vice Chair Kaesberg called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. without a quorum. A quorum was reached at 5:45 p.m.

### **Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment**

There was none.

### **Agenda Item 3 – Consideration of Minutes: December 5, 2007 Meeting**

The December 5, 2007 minutes were considered for approval. Commissioner Wilson moved that the minutes be approved as submitted. Commissioner Calender seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Agenda Item 4 – Election of Officers**

The slate of officers from the December 5, 2007 meeting was Vice Chair Kaesberg for Chair and Commissioner Wasko for Vice Chair. The floor was opened for additional nominations. Commissioner Wasko moved that he be nominated for Chair, Commissioner Farmer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Vice Chair Kaesberg moved that he be nominated for Vice Chair, Commissioner Aldrete seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners cast ballots with the following results: Chair – Kevin Kaesberg, Vice Chair – Mike Wasko.

### **Agenda Item 5 – Light Rail Update**

For information only. Jyme Sue McLaren, Deputy Public Works Manager, Light Rail Transportation gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Light Rail Project providing a project overview, an update on the construction status, and an overview of future rail planning. The initial Metro Line is 20 miles long. The alignment begins at the Spectrum Mall located on 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Bethany Home Road and extends through Phoenix and across Tempe with a final stop on Main and Dobson in Mesa.

Light Rail is a \$1.4 Billion Project with federal assistance of \$587 million. The balance of the costs will be paid by partner cities through local sales tax revenues. Regional facilities including bridges, canals and vehicles will be reimbursed through Proposition 400 funds. Tempe's track portion of the project is 100% complete. Light rail station foundations are done. Structural steel placements, shade canopies, seating, variable message boards and artwork is being installed. The overall project is 77% complete with 36 miles out of 40 finished. A fleet of fifty low floor vehicles, each with bike racks for 4 bikes and space for 4 wheelchairs is being tested. A three day grand opening with free rides for the public and celebrations at every station is planned for December 2008.

Hours of operation will be 5 a.m. to 12 a.m. seven days a week. Weekday service frequency will be every 10 minutes between 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. with 20 minute frequency the remainder of hours. Twenty four hour service is unlikely due to the need for maintenance of the gateway during non-service hours.

With the help of Proposition 400 funding which was passed in 2004 and dedicates ½ cents sales tax for 20 years, an additional 37 miles of Light Rail extensions are planned. One of these proposed extensions, Tempe South, will explore utilizing Rural Road to link Apache to Chandler Blvd. as an option. Other Transit Technology mode options that could be considered for this purpose include: Bus Rapid Transit, Streetcars, Commuter Rail and Local Bus Service. Jyme Sue encouraged members to attend one of the upcoming Tempe South Corridor public meetings on Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at Corona High School and on Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at the Tempe Public Library to provide input. Both meetings are from 6-8 p.m.

#### **Agenda Item 6 – Neighborhood Workshop Update**

For information only. Commissioner Wilson, Outreach Committee Chair, reviewed the Outreach Committee minutes (see Attachment A) at which the Neighborhood Workshop was discussed. Neighborhood staff is following up on the Commission's recommendations regarding workshop session titles and desired content.

Elizabeth stated that it is likely there will be four sessions total addressing the requested topics with each session repeating twice. This will allow a little more time for resident networking and questions and answers at each session. Staff is also arranging to have both internal (inside City) and external speakers for most sessions to provide a broader range of information and perspectives for each topic. Additional information regarding common hot topics like roof rats and frequently requested brochures such as transit and bikeway maps is being collected and will again be distributed through goody bags. Staff agrees that an inspirational and motivational speaker is desired and suggested keynote speaker options are being explored. There is no funding for a speaker fee. Commissioners were encouraged to save the date and to continue providing suggestions to increase event awareness and attendance.

#### **Agenda Item 7 – Neighborhood Day at the State Legislature**

For information only. Commission members were invited to attend Neighborhood Day at the State Legislature, taking place on January 17, 2008 at the State Capitol from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Those wishing to attend should RSVP to Neighborhood staff by January 14, 2008.

#### **Agenda Item 8 - Committee Structure and Reports**

##### **A. Business Committee**

There was no meeting. The next meeting will take place Tuesday, January 15, 2008 at 5 p.m., location to be determined.

##### **B. Codes Committee**

There was no meeting.

**C. Outreach Committee (see Agenda Item 6)**

See Agenda Item 6.

**D. Transportation Committee**

There was no meeting.

**Agenda Item 9 – Proposed Agenda Items for February 6, 2008**

- **Committee Reports**
- **Affordable Housing**
- **Neighborhood Day at the State Legislature Update**
- **Development subsidies**

**Agenda Item 10 - Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Prepared by:

Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Director

ATTACHMENT A



**Minutes  
Neighborhood Advisory Commission  
Outreach Committee Meeting  
December 11, 2007**

Minutes of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission Outreach Committee held on December 11, 2007 at the Coffee Plantation, 680 S. Mill Avenue, Tempe, AZ

**(MEMBERS) Present:** Woody Wilson, Mike Wasko, Faye Farmer, Tom Catlaw

**(MEMBERS) Absent:** Joe Pospicil

**Agenda Item 1 – 2008 Neighborhood Workshop Planning**

Recommendations from the Committee:

7: 30 a.m. -- Program begins with coffee, breakfast and social hour.

8:30 to 9 a.m. -- Featured speaker begins his/her talk. Speech should focus on motivating participants to greater community involvement.

9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. – The Chuck Malpede Neighborhood Leadership Awards.

9:30 to 9:45 – Break

9:45 – Breakout sessions for 45 minutes.

Suggested topics for Breakouts

1. Maryanne Corder Neighborhood Grant writing workshop. Suggested title for session “*Almost Easy Money – The Maryanne Corder Neighborhood Grant Program*”.

2. The Downtown Redevelopment and how it effects not only the neighborhoods adjacent to downtown, but everyone in Tempe. Focus should be on why we made these decisions and how they will impact our neighborhoods in the long run. Tax implications? Suggests “*Upward and Onward – A Look at Tempe’s Future*” as title for session.

3. How Tempe is, and will be, an environmental leader in coming years. What are our plans for solar, recycling, water conservation, promoting public transportation, park re-development, etc.? How will we get our companies (corporate partners) and citizens to think greener? Suggested title for session – “*A Greener Tempe – Leading the Way to Environmental Excellence*”

4. Building our communities and strengthening our neighborhoods. Ideas on how to reach out to your neighborhoods and get them to participate. 1. Using the Neighborhood Watch as a tool to community awareness. 2. Looking out for our older citizens. 3. Creating a community building tool kit for HOA and NA Boards. 3. Motivating people to serve on boards and community groups. Suggested title for session “*Reaching Over The Wall – How To Strengthen Your Neighborhood*”

There was further discussion on keynote speaker. Commissioner Wilson noted that Congressman Harry Mitchell will be contacted to participate. The idea is to have a keynote speaker who will attract participants and expand the scope of the workshop. If Cong. Mitchell is unavailable, another speaker will be found.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Prepared by: Commissioner Wilson